



FACULTY
OF SCIENCE

COURSE ANALYSIS

Date 2021-03-24

Main Teacher: Fredric Carlsson
Number of students: 20
Number of answers: 20 took exam
Grades: 2 U; 16 G; 2 VG

Department of Biology
Education- Bachelor's and Master's
level

Course Analysis: Microbiology, BIOR18, autumn 2020

Summary of the course evaluation

Overall the students were very satisfied with the course (grade 4.3, with 41.7% of students indicating the max grade of 5). The students also felt as if the course adapted well to the current Covid-19 situation (grade 4.4). Importantly, it is clear that the course increased the students' subject knowledge (grade 4.7), and that the so-called enrichment project was viewed as a very constructive part of their learning (grade 4.6). As for previous years, "energy and metabolism" was perceived as the most challenging part of the course and represents the least appreciated topic (grade 2.7). The other main topics of the course all received a grade above 4.

Comments from the teachers team

The teachers of the course considered that the course worked well, despite the obvious challenges imposed by Covid-19 restrictions. Our impression is in line with the fact that most students found the course to significantly increase their knowledge in the subject (grade 4.7, with 72.7% of students indicating the max grade of 5). For next year we will focus on revising the "energy and metabolism" topic, with the goal to improve student learning within this important area.

Evaluation and changes made since the previous course

Briefly, after the previous course we had planned the following changes regarding “energy and metabolism”: **i)** clarify and focus in on key concepts (and reduce the broad range of content that has traditionally been covered). **ii)** Add additional seminars to provide more opportunities for the students to actively discuss the content. Although we attempted to employ these changes already 2020, it is clear that they weren’t altogether successfully implemented. Indeed, based on the result of the exam – where many students failed questions relating to this topic – as well as on the students’ evaluations, we believe that there is room for improvement. The suggested changes (see below) are aligned with those identified already in 2019.

Suggested changes for the next course

We believe that the “energy and metabolism” part of the course still covers a too broad range of contents, and that student learning will benefit from increased clarity regarding what we consider core knowledge. This should be combined with a reduction of content range. The teachers will now discuss this matter in detail and decide on what to focus on for 2021.

Moreover, we will introduce an additional seminar on the topic, which will provide an important opportunity for the students to actively discuss and better understand the subject matter. We hope that these changes will further support student learning.

Other teachers involved in the course

Klas Flärdh, Claes von Wachenfeldt, Judith Matavacas, Vinardas Kelpsas, Daniel Brink (LTH), Stefan Schwartz (Med fak), Edith Hammer.

Of note, Judith and Vinardas were laboratory assistants on the course and did a fantastic job! This was also noticed and appreciated by the students who gave them a grade of 4.9.